

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:) Art Unit:
Hikaru TAKAKURA et al)
Appln. No.: NOT YET ASSIGNED) Examiner:
Filed: April 2001) Washington, D.C.
For: U. (INSTABLE PROTEASE)) April 24, 2001
G) Docket No.: TAKAKURA=1A

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

contemporaneous with the filing of this case and prior
to calculation of a filing fee and examination on the merits,
kindly add as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

1, after the title, insert as new lines
-- CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

is a divisional of application no. 08/894,818,
filed April 29, 1997, which is a 371 national stage application
of PCT/JP 96/03253, filed November 7, 1996, the entire contents of
both applications being incorporated herein by reference.--

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Pages 8-9, please replace the last paragraph beginning at line 23, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Furthermore, the present inventors prepared a hybrid gene encoding a hybrid protease, i.e., a fusion protein from both proteases, and confirmed that an enzyme expressed by hybrid gene showed the protease activity at high temperature like the above hyperthermostable protease.--

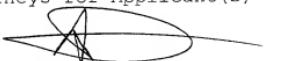
REMARKS

The amendments are being made to provide consistency with the amendments to the specification of the parent application. In addition, a Cross-Reference to Related Application section is added.

Respectfully submitted,

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By


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"VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE IN THE SPECIFICATION"

Pages 8-9, please replace the last paragraph beginning at line 23, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Furthermore, the present inventors made prepared a hybrid gene encoding a hybrid protease, which was a chimera i.e., a fusion protein from both proteases, and confirmed that an enzyme expressed by the hybrid gene showed the protease activity under at high temperature conditions as like the above hyperthermostable protease which resulted in the completion of the present invention.--